United States Department of Agriculture | Forest Service | Northeastern Area State & Private Forestry | 180 Canfield Street Morgantown, WV 26505-3101

File Code: 3410 (NA-08-17)
Date: September 16, 2008

Subject: 2008 MNF Pine Shoot Beetle Surveys

To: Clyde Thompson, Forest Supervisor
Monongahela National Forest

Starting in March 2008, personnel from this office began surveying for the pine shoot beetle on the Monongahela National Forest (MNF). During this survey we used Lindgren funnel traps and lure to attract the beetle. No signs of pine shoot beetle were detected. However, the presence of the pine shoot beetle especially in its early stage of infestation is extremely difficult to detect. The accompanying map shows the general locations of this year's survey.

The pine shoot beetle is an invasive beetle that has been detected in parts of 14 States (including Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Maryland, Maine, Michigan, New Hampshire, New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Vermont, and West Virginia). Since its first detection in the early 1990's, this beetle has produced quarantines and regulations on the movement of pine commodities in 473 counties. Scotch pine is the principle host, but other pine species and conifers are susceptible to attack.

No pine shoot beetle was detected this year during any of our surveys. Fourteen stands were surveyed this year (table 1). The pine shoot beetle is a serious pest of pine in the Eastern United States. Educational information about this borer is available on the World Wide Web (http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info/psb/index.shtml) through this office along with the West Virginia Department of Agriculture. We hope that this information will be used throughout the Forest. We would also request that your personnel work with this office to identify and survey pine resources located throughout the MNF.

Please remind District personnel that they have the primary responsibility for on-the-ground, initial detection of insect and/or disease outbreaks. We ask that all personnel continue to monitor for evidence of insect activity and tree defoliation, discoloration, and mortality in their areas and report any insect and disease activity to the Morgantown Field Office.

If you or any of your staff have any questions or comments regarding this survey, please contact Rick Turcotte at (304) 285–1503.

Sincerely,

ROBERT G. LUECKEL
Field Representative
Morgantown Field Office

Enclosures

Cc: District Ranger, Cheat RD
District Ranger, Gauley RD
District Ranger, Greenbrier RD
District Ranger, Marlinton & White Sulphur Springs RDs
District Ranger, Potomac RD
Glen Juergens, Silviculturist
Cheri Hutchinson, WVDA

RMT/AKS

Table 1. ***Monongahela National Forest Pine Shoot Beetle Survey Information, through September 2008.***

Ranger District	Compartment	Stand	Forest Type
Gauley	0078	100	Red Pine
White Sulphur Springs	0067	034	Mixed Oaks
White Sulphur Springs	00060	010	Mixed Oaks
Gauley	00083	045	Red Pine
Greenbrier	00055	081	Eastern White Pine
Greenbrier	00074	061	Red Pine
Gauley	00148	036	Red Pine
Cheat	00051	027	Red Pine
Greenbrier	00651	021	Eastern White Pine
Gauley	00006	041	Eastern White Pine
Greenbrier	00612	037	Eastern White Pine
Greenbrier	00605	002	Eastern White Pine
White Sulphur Springs	00024	051	Virginia Pine
White Sulphur Springs	00101	012	Virginia Pine

Figure 1. – General locations of Pineshoot Beetle surveys.